



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers**  
Jacksonville District

# News Release

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*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

## **CORPS OF ENGINEERS MAKE ENVIRONMENTAL RELEASES FROM LAKE OKEECHOBEE**

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, at the request of the South Florida Water Management District, has initiated a 10-day, average 600 cubic feet per second (cfs) pulse release to the Caloosahatchee Estuary from Lake Okeechobee that began at 7 a.m., Thursday, Feb. 17 2005.

Continued low-level releases to the Caloosahatchee Estuary are desired to prevent intrusion of ocean water and maintain salinity at levels that are conducive for the survival of tape grass beds in the upper estuary. These grass beds provide important habitat for estuarine fish and shellfish.

Today's lake level is 14.78 feet-NGVD in Zone D of the WSE (Water Supply/Environment) regulation schedule.

For further information, please call the Jacksonville District's Corporate Communications Office at 904-232-2568 or 1-800-291-9405.

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